GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3727
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2003
ALLOTMENT OF WEAPONS/ARMS AND AMMUNITIONS TO DEALER
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Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for allotment of weapons/arms and ammunitions to arms dealers by the Ordnance Factories;

(b) whether there is any provision to sale arms and ammunitions to arms licensee as per rate fixed by Ordnance Factories;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government are aware that arms and ammunitions are sold by Dealer at high price in black market;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken by the government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) The allotment of weapons/arms and ammunitions to arms dealers is done on the basis of the licence issued by the District Administration and the quantity authorised therein. The allocation per dealer is also regulated keeping in view the total availability of the weapons.

(b) & (c) : Ordnance Factories directly sell 0.32` Revolver, 0.32` Pistol, 0.22` Sporting Rifle and 0.22` Revolver to the valid license holders as per the rate fixed by the Ordnance Factory Board.Ordnance Factories also sell weapons directly to the license holders who are given out of turn allotment by the Government.

(d) to (f) : There is no legal framework or mechanism to enforce price control of arms and ammunition. The Ordnance Factory Board has, however, specified that the dealers should charge commission of 10% on the basic price apart from the actual transportation cost. An undertaking accepting this condition is being obtained from the dealers.